

# The Intelligencer.

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## "Nigger in the Woodpile."

Depositions taken at Independence Wednesday in the so-called Cardwell libel suit against the St. Louis Republic, judging from the written evidence presented, disclosed "the Senegambian in the woodpile." While Secretary of State Sam B. Cook, who wrote the article for the newspaper named which was alleged to be libelous, was on the stand testifying, according to even biased press reports coming from Kansas City, Cardwell's name was never mentioned, but Frank P. Walsh immediately began an inquisition into the affairs of the democratic state central committee during the time that both Cook and Seibert were chairmen of that body, with the apparent view of bringing out statements that would injure members of the present state administration and necessarily, also, the democratic party. Cook's open and frank answers to the intensely inquisitorial interrogatories of Walsh, who, be it remembered, is also a member of the state committee, showed that he had nothing to hide. He unhesitatingly admitted that the democratic committee had received contributions from men connected with corporations, but denied emphatically that such were accepted with any understanding to the effect that such contributions would render immune the donor from legislation that might affect his interests adversely. And these answers were voluntary on Mr. Cook's part. In fact, his presence in Independence at all was of his own volition.

To the people of Missouri this procedure on the part of the men behind "the Cardwell suit" is pregnant with intense amusement. Think of a line of searching interrogatories propounded for the purpose of throwing the search-light of truth on the acts of a set of men who are charged with profiting through the medium of corporation influences by another set of men who are depending, in order to sustain their footing, on the testimony of Col. William H. Phelps, the bellwether lobbyist of the state who admits that he sucks eggs and doesn't even take the precaution to hide the shells. Since when did Col. Phelps become desirous of showing up to public gaze the doings of the lobby of which he is at the head? Ye gods of purity! has the millennium arrived in Missouri politics?

The democracy of Missouri must view with deepest sorrow the indignities that are being heaped upon these paragons of political rectitude up at the Kaw's mouth and pray with them in their struggles for freedom from the grasp of the life-destroying octopus that has reached out and gathered them into the clutches of its mighty arms. Their's is a righteous grief and it is to be regretted, indeed, that this Jackson county faction should even have to live in a state where men travel on free railroad passes.

In the meantime the democratic party of Missouri will continue to give its support to Gov. Dockery and the present state administration, realizing in just what particular part of the Jackson county woodpile the Senegambian is located.

Surely these self-righteous Jackson county disorganizers must have a world of faith in the gullibility of the democratic party of this state. Their action is a reflection on the intelligence of the people of Missouri.

Minister Wu, representative of the Chinese government at Washington, is to visit Kansas City. The great Mongolian, if he exercise his usual wisdom, will be careful of his associates when he reaches the Kaw town. The charge of being a factionist might be preferred against him.

A gigantic sugar trust has been organized in Germany, so strong that it threatens the sugar industry of other countries. If it will annihilate the infamous sugar trust in this country then will we say "Amen!" at the risk of taking our coffee bitter in future.

A lot of United States naval officers spent a comfortable night under six feet of water while a man at Kansas City spent several nights comfortably under six feet of ground. Verily, peace hath its victories as renowned as war.

## The Coming Congress.

The coming session of congress, which convenes at Washington next Monday promises to be one of the most important in the political history of this country. With an untried and erratic man at the head of the executive department—a man who entertains ideas that in reason cannot be made to find favor with Hannalsm—wrangling among the leaders of the republican party may possibly create divisions that will frustrate unfair legislation; but of this we have little hope. It is seldom that the republican party fails to centralize at times of so-called party need and the lash of the whip of the boss is usually effective. However, should Mr. Roosevelt persist in turning down men recommended for place in the army and navy by republican senators that body may more than likely refuse to confirm those he does appoint leading to a row that may possibly have some effect in the direction of enabling the democratic minority to more successfully carry out its work in favor of the masses of the American people. This, illustrative of the figure of speech that "when rogues fall our honest men get their dues."

Yes, grave questions will come before this congress—questions that not only effect this country but the world at large. There is the question of Philippine government involving the sacredness of the Monroe doctrine and the threatened usurpation of republicanism by imperialism. Some action will have to be taken regarding the government set up over there through the fiat of the president and the question is weighty enough to command the most careful handling if we would not drift away from the safe rock upon which we have been pillored for all these years.

The Isthmian canal treaty is up for consideration, a measure involving the commerce of the world; and then to deal with congress will have the Cuban question, carrying with it the intricate sugar interests of the two countries; the Chinese exclusion act, which must be renewed before May 5, next, if we would not have the floodgates of undesirable immigration open up and an inpouring of objectionable foreigners. And just here it might be said, and that truthfully, that other countries than China should have placed upon them the mark of American disapproval as to the matter of dumping into this country their outcasts from society and organized law-breakers who come here to breed anarchy that stops not at bloodshed at the point of the assassin's gun or the thrust of his stiletto. The Alaskan boundary dispute is to be settled and will require both diplomacy and firmness. The settlement of this question was merely postponed by the *modus vivendi* now in force.

And then there is the matter of the great railway consolidation, forming the most gigantic trust the world has ever known. Its relation to interstate commerce must be decided, and with care for the interests of the people. The Danish West Indies question is also one of great importance.

By far the most important question to the tolling masses of this country, however, is that of trusts and their god-father, the tariff. Americans are awakening as never before to the trade destroying and manhood killing tariff schedules in vogue in the land and such a howl has gone up from the mouths of an outraged people that even some of the republican leaders are beginning to see the handwriting on the wall as plainly as when 'twas flashed before the gaze of the attendants at Belshazzar's feast.

At the same time we are of the opinion that the country can look for no relief as appertaining to tariff reduction at the hands of the dominant party. So interwoven are the interests of republican campaign managers with those of the tariff looter and trust robber that a line of demarkation will be difficult to establish.

But the people are watching. They realize that the republican party is in full control of every branch of the government and they will hold that party to a strict accountability.

The coming session of congress is rife with possibilities. The many great questions up for settlement will invite corruption and jobbery. It is merely left to the leaders of the republican party as to whether or not they are to continue their schemes of public plunder, among the many of which is the ship subsidy steal. If such is their intention a more fruitful field has never before presented itself to them. Just and righteous rebuke must follow at the polls later on.

Miss Nettie Brannock came up from Pleasant Hill Thursday morning to visit Miss Florence Hall.

## Pot and Kettle.

A lot of swindlers have been arrested at Webb City, Mo., who have succeeded in fleecing "suckers" out of thousands of dollars on false foot racing. Several prominent men have been apprehended and their flight for freedom from the law's clutches will have to be a strong one if they succeed in getting out of their trouble. Their scheme was to induce men to bet money on a sure thing, guaranteeing that the race had been "fixed" and that the get rich quick scheme could not fail. The race would be called, sprinters started, the sure winner would fall down and the other fellow win. In some cases men mortgaged their farms in order to secure ready money with which to rob the unsuspecting. Instead they invariably got robbed and can have the sympathy of no decent man. It is a bad mess all around and in charging each other with crime it is a case of pot calling kettle black. One party, a Texan, is said to be out \$20,000 and a traveling man lost several thousand dollars belonging to the firm he represented and will be sent to the penitentiary. Just how this gang could have operated so long and so successfully without detection is to us a great mystery.

## Courage of Conviction.

John G. Sims, '02, of Wartrace, Tennessee, one of the best debaters in the university at Princeton, and who was chosen as one of the college team to debate with Yale refuses to serve because he would have had to take the affirmative side of the question, "Resolved, that the adoption of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States has been justified." Sims does not believe that the affirmative of this question can be sustained by truth and justice and hence threw up the honor that had been given him rather than stultify himself. Now look out for editorials breathing of treason by the republican newspapers of the country. Let us hear from Booker Washington's special advocate, the Star, up at Kansas City.

## Enterprising Dr. Hicks.

In ninety per cent of the newspapers we pick up the headline "Earl R. Hicks is Not Dead" presents itself. Mr. Hicks is to be congratulated upon this organized determination on the part of the press to retain him among things mortal. Mr. Hicks is the man who writes almanacs and while we have not seen him lately we are of the opinion, based upon the emphatic assertion of the Missouri newspapers, that he still lives. We should have regular advertising rates for this paragraph but inasmuch as its long about thanksgiving time we have concluded to donate this space to Mr. Hicks' life boom. As an advertiser Mr. Hicks is a most pronounced success.

## Rich Richer, Poor Poorer.

While the recently arrived baby at the Vanderbilt home in New York found thousands of dollars worth of wearing apparel in readiness with which to clothe its little body the fact remains that thousands of other children throughout the land are suffering for the necessities of life through the evils of class legislation that has served to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. We venture this paragraph regardless of the fact that the expression of the forcible truth contained therein may subject us to the criticism of the plutocratic Kansas City Star in effect that we are endeavoring to array one class in this country against another.

## Church History.

In this issue of the INTELLIGENCER will be found a history of the Christian church of Lexington, from its inception up to the present time, and as nearly complete as it has been possible to make it. The facts were gathered together by a church committee appointed for the purpose and the history was written by W. G. Musgrove, one of Lafayette county's most versatile and reliable writers. The story of the life of this church is too lengthy for one issue, hence it is cut in twain and will be concluded next week.

American snobbery has received a set back across the water. The edict has gone forth that none save British subjects can witness Edward's coronation. It is within the limits of possibility, however, that successful pressure may be brought to bear to induce the crown to admit American helmsmen who are ambitious to become the wives of and furnish the money with which to replenish the purse of England's pauperized nobility.

West Virginia is said to be snow covered and ice ridden. It is to be hoped that the freeze will extend to Elkinsism and successfully place it in cold storage for all time to come.

## School Fund Amendment.

The Globe-Democrat says that the proposed constitutional amendment authorizing an extension of the system of school certificates is submitted to remedy the "unconstitutional" taint involved in their issue. The Globe knows that this statement is untrue, says the Republic.

The constitutional amendment is submitted solely for the reason that there is a provision in the existing constitution which requires that there be set apart annually for the sinking fund to redeem bonds "not less than \$250,000."

The school certificates are a part of the public debt. Therefore, when the bonds shall have been fully paid, which will be during the coming year, this constitutional provision, unless amended, will apply to the school certificates and require at least \$250,000 of them to be paid every year.

There are just two ways of dealing with this question under the constitution, and only two:

First—The adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment, under which payment will not be required. This will continue the policy, which has been maintained during the last thirty years.

Second—If this amendment is not adopted the state must pay the certificates and invest the proceeds in bonds of the United States, because another provision of the constitution says that the school funds "shall be invested in bonds of the state of Missouri or of the United States."

The certificates being, in law, bonds of the state, they are subject to the provision of the constitution, heretofore quoted, which will require at least \$250,000 of them to be paid every year after the extinguishment of the bonded debt proper. These having been paid, there will be, under the constitution, but one way of investing their proceeds, and that is in bonds of the United States.

The whole question is, therefore, "up to the people." If they desire to continue the existing system, they can do so by voting for the proposed amendment. If they desire to pay off the certificates and invest the proceeds in United States bonds, then they should vote down the proposed amendment.

The investment of our school funds in bonds of the United States will not yield an income to exceed 2 per cent annually, and the bonds must be purchased at a premium equal to at least four year's interest. The loss, therefore, to the schools must be made up by local taxation.

To present the issue in the briefest possible form—the defeat of the proposed amendment means the continuation of the present tax rate of 10 cents on the \$100 until the certificates are paid, and the investment of their proceeds in bonds of the United States at an annual loss to the state school funds of fully \$150,000.

If the amendment is adopted, it means an immediate reduction in the rate of state taxation from 10 cents on the \$100 to not more than 3 cents on the \$100, no increase in local taxation, and no decrease in the amount annually apportioned to maintain the schools.

The question is "up to the people."

Financial needs of the British government have necessitated an early session of parliament. If Britain would pay less attention to the conquering of a patriotic, liberty-loving people through the power of might and more to the building up of her natural resources through the power of right then would her coffers overflow with money and these financial embarrassments would not confront her. In her dire need we have no sympathy for England. Through greed she is writing the history of her own doom with letters of blood.

Republican editors of Missouri recently held a meeting at St. Joseph for the purpose of studying out ways and means of again getting control of the government of this state. In the mean time there are a lot of so-called democrats who are lending these conspirators all the aid possible in the consummation of their dangerous ambitions by creating dissensions in the ranks of their own party. Democrats, forsooth! Disorganizers is the better name.

New York was wind and flood swept last Sunday. The suggestion is pertinent now that the republican press charge this visitation of destructive elements of nature to the existence of Tammany.

Kansas City has added one more to her many features of note in the nature of a "dude robber." And his name ain't Pinky Blitz, either. Wonderful how that town does grow.

## MOTHERHOOD.

The night throbs on; but let me pray, dear Lord!

Crush off his name a moment from my mouth.

To thee my eyes would turn, but they go back,

Back to my arm beside me where he lay—  
So little, Lord, so little and so warm!

I can not think that thou hadst need of him!  
He is so little, Lord, he cannot sing,  
He cannot praise thee; all his life had learned

Was to hold fast my kisses in the night.

Give him to me—he is not happy there!  
He had not felt his life; his lovely eyes  
Just knew me for his mother, and he died.

Hast thou an angel there to mother him?  
I say he loves me best—if he forgets,  
And runs not out to meet me when I come—

What are my curses to thee? Thou hast heard

The curse of Abel's mother, and since then  
We have not ceased to threaten at thy throne,

To threat and pray thee that thou hold them  
In memory of us.

See thou tend him well,  
Thou God of all the mothers! If he lack  
One of his kisses—Ah, my heart, my heart,  
Do angels kiss in heaven? Give him back!

Forgive me, Lord, but I am sick with grief,  
And tired of tears and cold to comforting,  
Thou art wise I know, and tender, aye, and good.

Thou hast my child and he is safe in thee,  
And I believe—

Ah, God, my child shall go  
Orphaned among the angels! All alone,  
So little and alone! He knows not thee,  
He only knows his mother—give him back!  
—Josephine Dodge Daskam, in the November Scribner's.

## A GENTLEMAN.

I knew him for a gentleman  
By signs that never fail;  
His coat was rough and rather worn,  
His cheeks were thin and pale—  
A lad who had his way to make,  
With little time to play;  
I knew him for a gentleman  
By certain signs today.

He met his mother on the street;  
Off came his little cap.  
My door was shut; he waited there  
Until I heard his rap.  
He took the bundle from my hand,  
And when I dropped my pen  
He sprang to pick it up for me,  
This gentleman of ten.

He does not push or crowd along;  
His voice is gently pitched.  
He does not fling his books about  
As if he were bewitched.  
He stands aside to let you pass;  
He always shuts the door;  
He runs on errands willingly,  
To forge and mill and store.

He thinks of you before himself:  
He serves you if he can,  
For in whatever company  
The manners make the man.  
At ten and forty 'tis the same;  
The manner tells the tale,  
And I discern the gentleman  
By signs that never fail.

—Exchange.

And now comes the startling statement from the south that another negro has been lynched. Not by whites, however. Men of his own color strung a negro up near Shreveport, La., for the murder of another negro. We await with impatience the outcry of horror on the part of republican newspapers ament this southern outrage. And incidentally we might remark we will continue to wait. The story ain't built right for these defamers of the southern people.

Mark Hanna and his cronies who are hoping to further themselves in the passage much talked of ship subsidy rest assured of one thing: the democratic party, backed up by American manhood, will be the killin' of the fox. The party should be unmistakably the epidermis of every man help toward enacting this law by democratic eloquence forcefulness on both floors